

and later also took his son Thomas as a partner. He imported African slaves in partnership with Samuel Galloway on the account of James Clements and Company, Liverpool merchants. He also acted as a factor for Sedgley and Cheston, London merchants. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Kent County, 1761 (elected to the 3rd Convention of the 1758–1761 Assembly to fill vacancy; Bills of Credit Cv 3), 1762–1763 (Elections 1, 2; Bills of Credit 1, 2; Public Offices 1, 2), 1765–1766 (Bills of Credit 2, 4; Public Offices 3, 4), 1768–1770 (Laws to Expire 4; Claims 1–4), 1771 (elected, but did not attend). OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICE: a member of the Stamp Act Congress, which met in New York City in October 1765. Ringgold and two other Marylanders joined delegates from several colonies in adopting the Declaration of Grievances, which declared that the American colonists could never be taxed by the British Parliament because they were not represented in that body. Upon his appointment to this Congress, he was called “one of the most brilliant and experienced statesman” of his day. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: provided a legacy in his will for the Free School of Kent County. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 2,242 acres in Kent County, plus 1 water lot and three-fourths of another lot in Chestertown (1,108 acres, plus both lots, by purchase; 1,231 acres inherited from his father and grandfather; 137 acres through foreclosure on a mortgage). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: purchased 3,812 acres in Kent County between 1759 and 1769; owned an additional 2,542 acres as reflected in the debt books for 1769, which may have been inherited family land; purchased a lot in Chestertown in 1760, which he sold in 1761, plus 4 other town lots and 1 water lot between 1760 and 1768; patented 1,813 acres in Kent County between 1759 and 1769; purchased 18,100 acres in Frederick County, composed of Conococheague Manor and 7 other large tracts, in 1770, and between 1768 and 1770 purchased 3,020 acres in Queen Anne’s and Dorchester counties; owned with his brother William 592 acres in Kent County in the late 1760s (50 acres of this was obtained through an attachment and land condemnation); sold 1,964 acres in Kent County, plus 1 lot in Chestertown, between 1761 and 1771. Ringgold also held mortgages on at least 3,827 acres in Kent, Baltimore, and Dorchester counties between 1750 and 1771. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: on April 1, 1772, in Kent County. **PERSONAL**

PROPERTY: requested no inventory or appraisal of his estate. **LAND:** ca. 30,000 acres in Kent, Frederick, Queen Anne’s, and Dorchester counties, plus 4 town lots and 1 water lot in Chestertown. He owned with his brother 592 acres in Kent County.

RINGGOLD, THOMAS (1744–1776). BORN: on December 4, 1744, in Kent County; only child. NATIVE: sixth generation. RESIDED: in Chestertown, Kent County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: *Thomas Ringgold* (1715–1772). MOTHER: Anna Maria (ca. 1725–ca. 1795), daughter of *James Earle, Jr.* (ca. 1694–1739) and wife Mary Tilghman (1702–ca. 1736). UNCLES: *Richard Tilghman Earle* (1728/29–1788); *Michael Earle* (1722–1787); and *William Ringgold* (ca. 1723–1789), a possible legislator. HALF UNCLE: *Joseph Earle* (1739–1777). AUNTS: Sarah Ringgold, who married *Alexander Williamson* (ca. 1712–1760); Henrietta Maria Earle (1730–1767), who married *William Hemsley* (1736/37–1812). FIRST COUSIN: *Samuel Earle* (1756–1790). MARRIED Mary (1746–?), daughter of Samuel Galloway (1720–1785) and wife Anne Chew (1725–1756). Her brothers were John (1748–1810), who married in 1786 Sarah Chew; Samuel (1751–?); and *Benjamin Galloway* (1752–1831). Her sister was Anne (1755–?), who married in 1775 James Cheston. **CHILDREN.** SONS: Thomas (1768–1818), who married in 1795 Mary Gittings, daughter of *James Gittings* (1735–ca. 1823); Samuel (1770–?); Benjamin (1774–1798); and Tench (1776–?), who married in 1799 Mary Christian Lee. DAUGHTER: Anne Maria (1772–1817), who married Col. Frisby Tilghman (1773–1847). **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate; in his will he provided for a scholastic education for his sons, and requested they learn some business or profession. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican, Chester Parish, Kent County. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Esq., by 1769. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: merchant in Chestertown in partnership with his father, *Thomas Ringgold* (1715–1772), and uncle, *William Ringgold* (ca. 1723–1789), a possible legislator. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Conventions, Kent County, 1st, 1774, 3rd, 1774, 4th, 1775, 5th, 1775, 6th–8th, 1775–1776 (elected to the 6th Convention to fill vacancy), 9th, 1776 (Loan Office; died during the Convention). LOCAL OFFICE: Chester Parish Vestry, Kent County, 1774. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** PERSONAL PROPERTY: upon the death of his father in 1772, Ringgold received two-thirds of the stock in trade from the partnership with his father and his uncle, which